

Remarks

This is intended to be a complete response to the Official Action mailed July 7, 2003 in which claims 1-25 were rejected. Claims 1, 4, 6, 15, 20, and 22 have been amended to better clarify applicant's inventive concept. Basis for these amendments are found in the specification on page 20, line 6; page 24, line 3; page 26, line 18; and page 31, line 9 which show that single-walled carbon nanotubes are produced on the metallic catalytic particles under certain conditions.

In view of the amendments and response made herein, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

First Rejection under § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Miller et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,746,657).

Applicant respectfully traverse this rejection on the basis that each and every limitation of the invention as presently claimed is not taught by Miller et al. That is, Miller et al. does not teach a metallic catalytic particle as claimed herein having a single-walled carbon nanotube deposited thereon nor does this reference teach or suggest a method of making such material.

Since Miller et al. does not teach each and every limitation of the claims, applicants hereby request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Second Rejection under § 102(b)

Claims 6, 7, 9, 13, 15-17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Blaskie et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the basis that each and every limitation of the invention as presently claimed is not taught by Blaskie et al. Blaskie et al. does not teach a metallic catalytic particle as claimed herein having a single-walled carbon nanotube deposited thereon nor does this reference teach or suggest a method of making such material.

Since Blaskie et al. does not teach each and every limitation of the claims, applicants hereby request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Third Rejection under § 102(b)

Claims 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the basis that each and every limitation of the invention as presently claimed is not taught by Suzuki et al. That is, Suzuki et al. does not teach a metallic catalytic particle as claimed herein having a single-walled carbon nanotube deposited thereon nor does this reference teach or suggest a method of making such material.

Since Suzuki et al. does not teach each and every limitation of the claims, applicants hereby request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

First Rejection under § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 15, 16, 19-23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection on the basis that Thompson does not disclose, teach or even suggest the inventive concept recited in claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 15, 16, 19-23 and 25. That is, Thompson does not teach or suggest a metallic catalytic particle as claimed herein having a single-walled carbon nanotube deposited thereon nor does this reference teach or suggest a method of making such material.

For the reasons set forth above, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Second Rejection under § 103(a)

Claims 3, 18 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson and further in view of de Boer et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the same reasons provided above in the response to the first rejection under § 103(a). Applicants respectfully submit that de Boer et al. does not supply the above described deficiencies of Thompson. The prior art references of Thompson and de Boer et al., whether viewed singularly or in combination, do not disclose, teach or even suggest the inventive concept recited in claims 3, 18 and 24.

For the reasons set forth above, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Third Rejection under § 103(a)

Claims 8, 11, 12, 14, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blaskie et al.

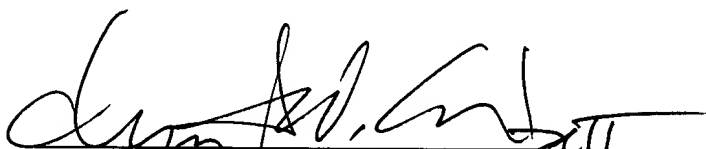
Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the same reasons provided above in the response to the second rejection under § 102(b). That is, Blaskie et al. does not teach or even suggest a metallic catalytic particle as claimed herein having a single-walled carbon nanotube deposited thereon nor does this reference teach or suggest a method of making such material.

In view of the above, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under § 103(a).

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher W. Corbett", written over a horizontal line.

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